



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** August 2, 2011

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Patrol Division, Police Department

**SUBJECT:** Service Agreement With Thresholds To Recovery To Operate The Sobering Center

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve and authorize the Chief of Police to negotiate and execute a Service Agreement with Thresholds to Recovery, Inc., to operate the Sobering Center in Fiscal Year 2012, beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2012, with annual fees not to exceed \$194,935, in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

### DISCUSSION:

The City has used Thresholds to Recovery, Inc. to operate the Sobering Center at the Faulding Hotel since its inception in 1994. The purpose of the Sobering Center is to provide an opportunity for public inebriates to voluntarily get sober in a safe, alcohol-free environment, as opposed to being arrested and booked into Santa Barbara County Jail. In addition to introducing the inebriate to an alcohol-free environment, the officer turnaround time is considerably less and the officer remains in the City.

From July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011, Thresholds to Recovery, Inc. processed 566 first-time offenders and 294 repeat offenders, a total of 860 admissions. Since opening in 1994, Thresholds to Recovery, Inc. has processed 12,934 first-time individual admissions and 20,024 total client admissions, including repeat offenders.

Funds to operate the Sobering Center come from monies previously allocated to pay for the public inebriates' jail booking fees. Personnel at Thresholds to Recovery are experts in the field of drug and alcohol programs, targeting low-income clients. Continued success is anticipated based on program evaluations performed annually over the past nine years. They have continued to provide a treatment network for first-time offenders on a long-term basis. The Sobering Center is a valuable resource to the Police Department and the community. Thresholds to Recovery, Inc has agreed to operate the sobering center for fees of up to \$194,935 in Fiscal Year 2012.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Funding for this contract is included in the Police Department's Fiscal Year 2012 budget.

**PREPARED BY:** James Pfleging, Police Lieutenant

**SUBMITTED BY:** Camerino Sanchez, Chief of Police

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office